



GHOSTRIDER GAZETTE

Golf Battery, 1-79 Field Artillery

Class 13-09, 12DEC08, Week 3



Dear Family Member,

Hello again from beautiful Fort Sill Oklahoma. Winter is here and the temperatures have definitely dropped, however, your Soldiers are doing well and remain focused on training. Basic Combat Training (BCT) is conducted in three phases consisting of three weeks each (red, white and blue phases). Your Soldiers have successfully completed red phase and will transfer into white phase. This means they will no longer be under the complete control of the Drill Sergeant. Selected Soldiers will begin taking leadership positions within their platoons and executing tasks directed by the Drill Sergeants. This allows them to work on the basics of time management, prioritization of work, communication skills, and completing tasks.

During the past week we trained on first aid tasks in a field environment (First Aid Situational Training Exercise). The Soldiers were given scenarios and had to apply the training that they had received the week prior. We then introduced your Soldiers to Basic Rifle Marksmanship. We began by teaching them about their M16 rifle, its capabilities and how to disassemble/ assemble and clean it. We instructed them on range procedures and the basics of how to fire a weapon accurately. Then the fun stuff begins. We use a large indoor animated range that gives us immediate feedback to ensure the Soldier can shoot accurately. We ensure that all Soldiers are able to get all rounds in a small area (grouping). Your Soldiers then move out doors to a range and do the same thing with live rounds. Once this is completed we adjust every Soldier's weapon so that the group of rounds that they are shooting will hit a specific area on a target (zeroing). We continue our weapons training over the next few weeks. Your Soldier will qualify with their weapon on Wednesday, 17DEC08.

By now, all of the Soldiers are getting very excited to begin preparations for their trip home during Holiday Block Leave (19DEC08-02JAN09). We have been busy ensuring that they have proper travel arrangements, and at this point, they all have their travel plans locked into place. We have given them numerous safety and informational briefings to ensure they both travel to and arrive back here safely. Our intent is to have 100% of your Soldiers back here on 03JAN08 ready to train. I ask for your help in ensuring they remain aware of the tasks they have before them when returning to Basic Combat training. We have given them guidelines for physical fitness that your Soldiers need to maintain, so they are able to successfully continue their training and meet all Basic Combat Training requirements to graduate. While they do have a small amount of responsibility to maintain themselves (mentally, emotionally, spiritually, and physically) the holiday season is a time to celebrate and be with loved ones. I hope that you all have a safe and happy holiday season and have a great break !

I continue to encourage you to write to your Soldiers. The Soldiers have begun receiving letters and mail and a little bit of encouragement from home goes a long way! Letters are fine, but do not send packages that contain contraband (magazines, food, electronics, candy, soda, tobacco, pornography etc.). Again their address is: (Line 1) **Soldiers' name (Line 2) Golf Battery, 1-79 FA, PLT #___ (Line 3) 5001 North Rothwell Rd (Line 4) Fort Sill, OK 73503.** If there is someone else that you know that would like to receive these updates please send me their email address. If you have questions pertaining to an emergency concerning your Soldier, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward meeting you all in the future. Respectfully,

KYLE A. LIPPOLD
CPT, FA
Commanding

Ghostrider Soldier's In Action!



Soldiers learn how to evacuate a "casualty" on a skid- litter.



A Soldier moves a "casualty" with the fireman carry.



A Soldier takes aim during Basic Rifle Marksmanship (BRM)



Soldiers on line conducting grouping and zeroing of their M16 rifles during BRM

First Aid Situational Training



Basic Rifle Marksmanship

